(b) whether the request was made to meet the long pending demand of the State for carriage of pilgrims and tourists from Orissa to various places in the South; and

(c) whether Government are considering the request favourable; if so, by when the above trian is likely to be introduced to meet the popular demand of the people of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir.

(c) 6355/6356 Howrah-Kanyakumari Express (Weekly) is available for Bhubaneswar-Kanyakumari passengers. Introduction of train between Bhubaneswar and Kanyakumari has been examined but not found feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

Problem of Train Passengers

†1886. SHRI RAMA SHAKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to completely check the misbehaviour of porters with passengers at railway stations, the entry of unauthorized passengers in reserved compartments and disturbance being created since long by the beggars and illegal vendors in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when, the plan in this regard would be executed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the manner in which Government would make the travel of passengers secured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRf BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Notice boards indicating the approved charges of porters are displayed at conspicuous places so as to eliminate misbehaviour of porters with passengers with respect to charges. Regular and surprise checks are conducted against cornering of seats by coolies, entry of unauthorised passengers in reserved coaches and unauthorised vendors, beggars both in trains and at stations. Persons detected travelling unauthorisedly are dealt with as per the relevant provisions of law. Apart from manning of reserved coaches by the ticket

† Original notice oithe question was received in Hindi.

checking staff, intensive drives are also conducted by the Railways in association with the Police to prevent entry of unauthorised passengers in reseryed compartments.

Conversion of Saryu Express into fast passenger

†1887. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Saryu Express has halt at 16 stations on its 155 km. long route and halts at all the stations between Pratapgarh and Allahabad though the number of its passengers is very low due-to express fare charged therefor and therefore the train is running in loss;

(b) whether. Government would convert this train into a fast passenger train so that a maximum number of passengers can travel in this train on account of less fare and the department can earn profit;

(c) if sp. by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Converting Saryu Express into a Passenger would not only invite demands for additional stopages which would lengthen the transit time but also mean loss of revenue to the Railways.

Passengers travelling on roof of the coaches

†1888. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite strict instructions of the Railway administration, passengers still travel over the roof of railway coaches in utter violation of rules;

(b) whether there are strict directions by the Ministry to the station management not to allow any passenger to travel over the roof of coaches.

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†Origirial notice of the question was received in Hindi.